

Message Text

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11

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 XMB-07 IO-14 LAB-06 SIL-01 FEA-02

AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00

FPC-01 H-03 INR-11 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01

PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01 SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00

FRB-03 DRC-01 /177 W

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R 192100Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4858

UNCLAS CARACAS 6817

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, EMIN, ETRD, VE

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON FOREIGN STEEL INDUSTRIES

REF: STATE 127209

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON VENEZUELAN STEEL INDUSTRY ARE KEYED TO PARAGRAPHS IN REFTEL. DATA HAS BEEN OBTAINED FROM PUBLIC STATEMENTS OF ARGENIS GAMBOA, PRESIDENT OF VENEZUELAN GUAYANA CORPORATION AND FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL STEEL COMPANY, SIDOR; FROM AN INQUIRY

TO SIVENSA, THE ONLY PRIVATE STEEL MILL; AND FROM CONSULTING PUBLISHED

NATIONAL STEEL PLAN.

A. SLIGHTLY IN EXCESS OF ONE MILLION METRIC TONS BY SIDOR. ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-FIVE THOUSAND (165,000) METRIC TONS BY SIVENSA. ANNUAL BASIS.

B. VENEZUELAN STEEL EXPANSION IS PLANNED AS FOLLOWS:

PHASE ONE - 1974 THRU 1979

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PHASE TWO - 1980 THRU 1985

PRE-SELECTION OF BIDDERS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF AN IRON ORE PELLETIZING PLANT, BAR AND WIRE ROD ROLLING MILLS, ELECTRIC STEEL FURNACES AND CONTINUOUS CASTING MILLS, HAS BEGUN THIS SUMMER WITH AN OPTIMISTIC TIMETABLE THAT

WOULD RAISE STEEL PRODUCTION TO FOUR MILLION METRIC TONS BY 1977. OTHER BID PACKAGES ARE CERTAINLY UNDER PREPARATION, AS GAMBOA HAS STATED THAT IT WOULD BE FEASIBLE FOR THE COUNTRY TO ACHIEVE A PRODUCTION LEVEL OF 10 MILLION METRIC TONS BY 1980. PHASE TWO ENVISIONS A LEVEL OF 15 MILLION TONS BY 1985.

C. GAMBOA'S ESTIMATE IS 10 BILLION BOLIVARES (\$2,325 BILLION).

D. WITH ESTIMATED GROWTH RATE OF 23 PERCENT, DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION IS EXPECTED TO BE 4.5 MILLION METRIC TONS BY 1980.

E. BY SIMPLE SUBTRACTION OF ESTIMATED 1980 DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION FROM ESTIMATED PRODUCTION, ESTIMATED SURPLUS AVAILABLE FOR EXPORT COULD BE 5.5 MILLION METRIC TONS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: STEEL, INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION, STEEL PLANTS, PRODUCTION DATA
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974CARACA06817
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740195-1090
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740735/aaaabdx.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 127209
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 OCT 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 OCT 2002 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <22 JAN 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON FOREIGN STEEL INDUSTRIES
TAGS: EIND, EMIN, ETRD, VE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005